



MEMORANDUM

TO: Health Care Commission
Duane Goossen, Chair
Connie Hafenstine
Sandy Praeger
Nancy Ruoff
John Staton

FROM: Doug Farmer

DATE: March 3, 2009

SUBJECT: **Bariatric Surgery**

As discussed at the last Health Care Commission (HCC) meeting, we continue to develop a bariatric surgery benefits structure for consideration as a coverage enhancement. One of the considerations is whether to add such coverage to only one plan design or to more than one of the current plan designs.

I have provided testimony to both the House and the Senate on the report that KHPA prepared in response to Senate Bill 511. A copy of my testimony was provided to you at the last meeting. The HCC asked for information on the coverage available for bariatric surgery by Medicare and Medicaid. Attached is a copy of the Medicare guidelines for the coverage of bariatric surgery. At this time, Kansas Medicaid does not cover bariatric surgery.

A benefit structure with the associated costs for these services and benefits will be provided at the April HCC meeting.